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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/901,556  
Applicant : Gertrud HÖTTEN et al  
Filed : September 24, 1999  
TC/A.U. : 1646  
Examiner : P. Mertz

Docket No. : 2923-286  
Customer No. : 6449  
Confirmation No.: 3191

**RULE 312 AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 25, 2006

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.